

Vertical

Journal of the

V. 2

#19

Presented by:

Miss Grace White

160 Victoria St. E.,

Amherst, N.S.

Nov. 1964

accessioned

Nov. 24/64

Amherst

Nov

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FIRE

C H I L D R E N

By L. A. Phelps

AUTHOR OF "AN



INTRODUCTION.

This little volume, in its enlarged and improved form, is intended to prepare the learner for the author's English Reading Book; and is particularly calculated to assist teachers, in the instruction of their pupils.

It is proper to observe, that the English Reading Lesson is an essential part of the system of spelling to which it belongs, and that the lessons, through the medium of which the learner is acquiring a very few words, are intended to be a preparation for the more extensive and complete instruction which will be given in the English Reading Book.

Though some of the lessons contained in this book will be found again in the Spelling-Book, they will be studied there, a second time, with more interest and advantage, as they are connected with other exercises and information. These first elements of language are of so much importance, that a renewed attention to them, with the judgment improved, will not fail to confirm the learner, and establish a habit of accurate pronunciation.

A First Book for Children.

Chapter 1.

Lessons giving a general idea of the long, short, middle, and broad sounds of the vowels.

Section 1.

The common alphabet.—Table of the vowels.

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R
S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	

The letters promiscuously disposed.

AV BR CD CO DO EF
HN IJ IL KR MW GC
OQ UV VY PB ST XZ

as bd bp co dp er
fl hk ij il mn mw
nu pq rt vx xz gv

The vowels. :

a e i o u, and sometimes W and y.

The consonants.

d f g h j k l
r s t v w x

Double and triple consonants.

ff gg ll ss

Table of the different sounds of the vowels *.

A long as heard in ale, day.

A short as in mat, bat.

A middle as in mar, bar.

A broad as all, daw.

E long as bee.

as

as

as

as

as

as

Section 2.

Syllables and words of two letters.

The vowels long.

ba	be	bi	bo	bu	by
ca	—			cu	—
da	de			du	dy

fu

gu

hu

THE VOWELS AND DIPHTHONGS.

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na	ne	ni	no	nu	ny
pa	pe	pi	po	pu	py
ra	re	ri	ro	ru	ry

.....

sa	se	si	so	su	sy
ta	te	ti		tu	ty
va	ve	vi		vu	vy

we
ye
*ce
ge

wi
yi
ci
gi

by
—
dy

GENERAL VIEW OF

The vowel generally short.

ab	eb	ib	ob	ub
ac	ec	ic	oc	uc
ad	ed	id	od	ud
				
af	ef	if	of	uf
ag	eg	ig	og	ug
ak	ek		ok	uk
			ol	ul
al			om	um
am			on	un
			op	up
			or	ur
			os	us

Words of two letters.

by	do*	he	go	be
or	to	me	lo	ye
my	so	we	no	wo

am	if	of
an	in	on
as	is	us

Go up.

Let up?

Go in.

See I.

Go on.

Do go on.

* When do, to, is, as, or, on, or us, are used as words, they are pronounced as follows:

Section 3.

Syllables and words of three letters.

bla	ble	bli	blo	blu	bly
bra	bre	bri	bro	bru	bry
cla	cle	cli	clo	clu	cly

era	ere	eri	ero	eru	ery
dra	dre	dri	dru	dru	dry
fra	fre	fri	fro	fru	fry

ga	ge	gi	go	gu	gy
gra	gre	gri	gro	gru	gry
pla	pre	pri	pro	plu	ply

pra	pre	pro	pru	pry
sha	she	shi	shu	shy
sma	sme	smi	smu	smy

THE VOWELS AND DIPHTHONGS.

17

sna	sne	sni	sno	snu	snv
spa	spe	spi	spo	spu	spv
the	thy	fly	sly	sky	try

.....

and	ask	arm	end	ink
add	egg	up	odd	off
Ann	ant	ass	ell	inn

A fly.
An ant.
An ass.
The sky.

Go to Ann.
She is ill.
Is she up?

bly
bry
cly

ory
dry
fry

gly
gry
ply

pry
shy
smy

Chapter 2.

The SHORT SOUNDS of the vowels and diphthongs.

Section 1.

Words of three letters.

a

bad	can	had	fat	mad	rag
bag	cap	has	lad	man	wag
bat	cat	bat	mad	mat	wat

e

bed	deg	met	peg	red
bee	bee	net	pen	ver
fee	fee	pet	pet	wet

fig

lip

rid

fin

his

pig

sit

fit

hid

pin

tin

pop

rob

sob

pod

rod

sop

pot

rot

top

u

bud	cup	hum	mud	rub	sun
bun	cut	hug	mug	rug	sup
but	gut	hut	put	run	tub

Reading lessons.

A pin.	The dog.	I had.
A cup.	The cat.	He has.
A top.	The	Woman.

A bad lad. A red

A mad dog. A

A fat pig. A

He can dig. H

I can hop. B

We can run. W

sob

sop

top

Section 2.

Words of four letters.

a

band

glad

have

lass

sash

bank

flat

hand

fast

sand

damp

flax

land

last

span

e

bell

fret

nest

mend

tell

best

left

rest

send

well

dent

tent

sell

when

hill

milk

sing

spin

mist

silk

swim

pink

ship

will

ring

skip

what

o

pond

soft

shop

spot

song

stop

u

burn	dust	jump	plum	spurn
dull	hurt	lump	purr	sung
drum	hush	must	shut	tusk

Reading lesson.

A nest.

The king.

I wish.

A frog.

The ship.

I skip.

A pond.

The desk.

We jump.

A red spot.

Ring.

A pink sash.

A left hand.

A dish of fish.

A cup of milk.

soft

spot

stop

SHORT SOUNDS OF

Section 3.

Words of five and six letters.

glass
grass
plant
smell
spell
spend
cross
tongs
strong

shall
stamp
stand
bring
brisk
drink
blush
brush
crush

bless
dress
flesh
frisk
spring
stiff
crust
grunt
snuff

fresh
shelf
shell
still
sting
string
stump
strut
trunk

Reading lesson.

The grass.

The tongs.

Myself.

I spell.

He

We

Brush my hat.

Bring the cup.

Drink the milk.

Section 4.

Words containing short diphthongs.

Like *e* in *met*.

head	death	pearl	said
leaf	breath	tread	says
head	earth	spread	guess
head	learn	thread	friend

Like *i* in *pin*.

build	guilt	quill
-------	-------	-------

Like *u* in *but*.

blood	does	young
food	touch	scourge

Reading lesson.

I spell.
 He said.
 We learn.
 A friend.
 I guess.
 He said.
 We learn.

A friend.

A friend.

A friend.

Chapter 3.

The LONG sounds of the vowels and diphthongs.

Section 1.

Vowels and diphthongs like a in *ake*.

cake

face

haste

take

care

Jane

made

tape

gave

James

make

gray

air

clay

may

break

fair

day

maid

game

bail

hay

way

frame

tail

gain

play

small

rain

gray

say

they

vain

hair

stay

their

Reading lesson.

Take care.

Make hay.

May I go?

Stay by me.

Let us play.

Section 2.

Vowels and diphthongs like *e* in *me*.

Eve	she	here	these
ear	read	steal	week
eat	bleat	wheat	geese
east	clean	bee	green
mean	mean	see	sheep
leave	leave	feed	sleep
sheaf	sheaf	feet	sweet
shear	shear	keep	sleeve
leaf	speak	tree	field
peat	squeak	weed	piece

Reading lesson.

- A green field.
- A sweet pea.
- A sheaf of wheat.
- A piece of bread.
- A cup of tea.

ake cake
ake bread
May I go?
Stay by me.
Let us play.

Section . 8.

Vowels and diphthongs like *i* in *pine*.

Ice	kind	nice	blind
bite	kite	rice	wipe
dine	like	ripe	shine
fine	mice	side	smile
fire	mild	time	quite
line	mind	wine	spice
die	pie	tie	buy
lie	rie	vie	eye

Reading lesson.

smile.

The sun shines.

It is a fine day.

Bring the line.

Fly the kite.

It is time to read.

I like to read.

Section 4.

Vowels and diphthongs like *o* in *no*.

old	home	roll	bone
cold	hope	rose	stone
gold	mole	told	smoke
hold	most	tone	stroke
coat	cloak	low	grow
load	toast	mow	show
road	door	blow	snow
roar	floor	crow	sew

Reading lesson.

A hot roll.

Shut the door.

A red cloak.

The fire.

A sweet rose.

It is a rose.

A load of hay.

It is a load.

A bad road.

Bring my road.

A clean floor.

Let us clean.

Section 5.

Vowels and diphthongs like u in mule.

use	fume	mute	tube
eure	lute	pure	tune
duke	mule	puke	plume
cue	dew	new	slew
due	clew	pew	ewe
hue	few	blew	lieu
blue	mew	flew	view

Reading lesson.

blue. In a few weeks I hope
to read well.
I will make the best
use of my time.

Chapter 4.

The MIDDLE sounds of the vowels and diphthongs *.

Like *a* in *bar*.

tube	are	cart	harm	part
tune	art	card	lark	tart
plume	bark	far	large	sharp
slew	dark	hard	star	smart
ewe	ha	jaunt	heart	launch
lieu	sunt	guard	hearth	haunch
view				

Like *o* in *move*.

lose	prove	whom	do
move	who	whose	Rome
coo	noon	broom	tho
cool	poor	goose	

seeks I hope
well.
ake the best
my time.

* We have found it convenient to arrange
amongst the middle sounds of the vowels: and
is longer than *o* in *not*, and rather shorter than
presume the arrangement is allowable.

too	root	shoot	true
food	room	spoon	fruit
moon	soon	stool	your

Like u in bull

bush	full	puss	bull
push	pull	put	foot
book	look	good	wood
cook	rook	hood	wool
hook	took	stood	

Reading lesson.

Good fruit.

A fat goose.

A poor rook.

A dark room.

Put by my foot.

Do not push me.

Whose book is it?

I shall soon learn

to spell.

The full moon.

The dog barks.

The bull roars.

Puss purrs.

Put by the stool.

Do not push me.

Whose book is it?

I shall soon learn
to spell.

true
fruit
your

Chapter 5.

The BROAD sounds of the vowels and diphthongs*.

Section 1.

Vowels and diphthongs like *a* in *all*.

bull	ball	tall	warm	scald
foot	call	wall	wart	small
wood	fall	salt	false	swarm
wood	claub	daw	claw	shawl
	fault	paw	draw	straw
	gauze	raw	lawn	broad
	caw	saw	crawl	George

noon.

barks.

roars.

ers.

the stool.

push me.

book is it?

soon learn

spell.

Reading lesson.

A soft ball.

A straw hat.

A broad band.

A tall man.

A gauze cap.

A warm shawl.

The rooks caw.

The snow falls.

The snails crawl.

My ball is small.

Puss has sharp claws.

Who calls George?

* Vowels and diphthongs are called broad when they have the sound of broad *a*, or are proper diphthongs.

Section 2.

Proper diphthongs, in which both the vowels are sounded:
oi and *oy*, as in *boy*; *ou* and *ow*, as in *cow*.

oil	joy	thou	ground
boil	toy	cloud	cow
moist	our	found	how
noise	out	house	now
spoil	loud	mouse	owl
voice	shout	pound	growl
boy	sour	round	down
coy	flour	sound	gown

Reading lesson.

How do you do?

Sit down. Read to me.

Now leave your books.

Do not make a noise.

Dark fly in the dark.

Dark fly in the ground.

Chapter 6.

Words in which the vowels deviate from the sounds they have in the Table at page 11 *.

A like o in not.

was	wash	want
wast	wasp	what

I like u in but.

art	flirt	first	bird
stir	spirt	stir	squirt

E like e in met.

irth	firm	girl	skirt
birth	gird	girl	whirl

O like o in but.

some	glove	some	work
done	love	son	worm
dove	none	word	work

* These sounds of the vowels, so different from the sounds of them in the Table, have been reserved for a most appropriate chapter; that the young learner may not be perplexed with the various and discordant sounds of vowels blended together.

O like o in all

cord	fork	horn	for
lord	horse	corn	nor
cork	storm	horn	short

U like o in move.

crude	rule	prude	truce
rude	brute	prune	spruce
There	where	yes	her

Reading lesson.

Has Ann done her work?

Yes she has.

She is a good girl. I love her.

I have been ill. Come to me.

Give me some drink.

I love to learn. Where is my book?

What shall I read?

like long a in there, where; like short i in yes

in her.

Chapter 7.

Words containing consonants not sounded.

Section 1.

truce	silent	k	cock	half
spruce	amb	back	clock	calm
her	amb	black	mock	could
	amb	quack	duck	should
	amb	neck	knit	would
	amb	pick	knot	w
	g	sick	knock	wrap
her.	gnat	trick	l	wrist
me.	gnash	quick	calf	wrong

Reading lesson.

s my book?

like short i in yes

A fat calf.

A hard knot.

The ducks quack.

The cock crows.

The gnats bite.

Pick up the crumbs.

Who knocks at the
door?

Ann should

knit and

Section 2.

b silent	knead	fight	bought
climb	l	light	ought
comb	talk	might	though
g	walk	night	do <u>u</u> gh
sign	stalk	sight	plou <u>g</u>
reign	yolk	thigh	dou <u>g</u>
gnaw	folks	eight	thou <u>g</u>
k	gh	neigh	w <u>ri</u> te
knife	high	straight	wro <u>t</u> e
know	sigh	caught	
knee	bright	taught	swo <u>r</u> d

Reading lesson.

A new comb.

A bright star.

A sharp knife.

A light night.

A high wall.

The horse neighs.

A fine sight.

The dogs fight.

The bough of a tree.

Puss can climb trees.

The stalk of a rose.

I know how to read.

The yolk of an egg.

I wish I could write.

Dogs gnaw bones.

Come let us walk.

Jane kneads the
dough.

What o'clock is it?

It is eight o'clock.

George ploughs the
field.

I thought so.

Chapter 8.

Consonants, single and double, which have different sounds.

Section 1.

Single consonants.

c hard like k.

cash	crum	clash	scar
crab	curd	cling	scum
cane	cold	creep	count
call	cool	crawl	crown

c soft like s.

dance	pence	since	hence
dupce	fence	prince	thence
lace	nice	cease	juice
place	price	piece	voice

g hard.

glad	gasp	glass	grand
gust	grass	grunt	

g soft.

age	hedge
-----	-------

s sharp.

sand	dress	bricks	nurse
send	gloss	tricks	purse
seed	haste	goose	seat
side	waste	straw	sweet

s flat like z.

his	rags	birds	beds
hers	ribs	doves	heads
keys	hares	pears	please
sease	wares	praise	mourns

Reading lesson.

Jane has made a nice plum tart. I hope I shall not be a dunce.

Take a piece of Bricks are made of it. clay.

George gave me a Glass made of book. sand.

I am glad I can read it.

Section 2.

Double consonants.

th sharp.

thank	thick	breath	cloth
think	thin	health	thing
three	throw	teeth	north
throne	throat	mouth	south

th flat.

than	this	that	baths
then	thus	them	paths
they	these	thy	clothes
theirs	those	thine	smooth

ch like *tch*.

Charles	chin	much	rich
charge	chick	such	which
chair	cheese	coach	peach
child	choice	couch	reach

ch like *sh*.

tench	French
stench	chaise

ch like *k*.

chart

chasm

scheme

school

gh and *ph* like *f*.

rough

cough

phiz

nymph

tough

laugh

phrase

soph

Reading lesson.

Clean your teeth.

Who gave you these

Wash your mouths.

pears?

Then your breath

James gave them to

will be sweet.

us.

Do not throw stones.

Thank him for them.

Come in.

I have

Reach a chair.

a bag

Take some bread

and cheese.

Chapter 9.

Words promiscuously disposed.

Section 1.

Brand	shark	step	flock
dram	start	went	got
fast	bend	filth	one
pan	bless	kick	two
pass	chest	pit	brook
plant	fell	prick	hoof
ran	heard	shrill	proof
staff	help	split	shoot
thank	herb	strip	shrewd
arm	lest	till	nurse
barn	sent	whip	purse
mark	shell	with	worse

Reading lesson.

hoofs, A barn is a place for
horns. corn and hay.

A shark is a fish with
sharp teeth.

Section 2.

Bray	taste	street	forth
came	wake	tease	four
gay	whale	weak	growth
late	clear	child	more
name	heal	find	own
praise	hear	guide	whole
prate	heath	life	scorn
ray	lead	while	storm
save	lean	wide	clown
shade	meek	wife	crown
spare	meet	coarse	joint
stairs	seek	fold	point

Reading lesson.

Two and four are How
six.

A fold is a place to
put sheep in.

Chapter 10.

Of the points and notes used in composing sentences.

- A comma is marked thus ,
- A semicolon thus ;
- A colon thus :
- A period, or full stop thus .
- A note of interrogation thus ?
- A note of admiration thus !
- A parenthesis thus ()

Pauses in reading.

The learner should stop,

till he could count .. one;

till two;

..... three;

..... four.

Chapter 11.

Promiscuous reading lessons.

Section 1.

Breakfast.

THE sun shines.

It is time to get up.

Jane, come and dress Charles.

Wash his face, and neck, and make him quite clean.

Comb his hair. Tie his frock.

Now, Charles, we will go down stairs.

Fetch that stool. Sit down.

Here is some milk ; and here is some of bread.

Do not spill the milk.

Hold the spoon in the

This is the right hand

The crust is hard: do not leave it; sop
it in the milk.

Do not throw the bread on the floor.

We should eat bread, and not waste it.

There is a poor fly in the milk.

Take it out. Put it on this dry cloth.

Poor thing! It is not quite dead. It moves;
it shakes its wings; it wants to dry them;
see how it wipes them with its feet.

Put the fly on the floor, where the sun
shines.

Then it will be dry and warm.

Poor fly! I am glad it was not dead.

I hope it will soon be well.

Section 2.

Puss.

What?

by the tail; that will

Charles does not like to be hurt: and
puss does not like to be hurt.

I saw a boy hurt a poor cat; he took
hold of her tail: so she put out her sharp
claws, and made his hand bleed.

Stroke poor puss.

Give her some milk.

Puss likes milk.

Now that Charles is so kind to her, she
will not scratch, nor bite him.

She purrs, and looks glad.

Section 3.

Reading.

Come to me, Charles. Come and read.

Here is a new book.

Take care not to tear it.

Good boys do not speak.

Speak plain

Take pains, and try to read well.

Stand still.

Do not read so fast.

Mind the stops.

What stop is that?

It is a full stop.

Charles has read a whole page now.

This is a page. This is a leaf.

A page is one side of a leaf.

Shut the book. Put it by.

Now give me a kiss.

Section 4.

Rain.

Should we talk?

No. I think it will rain soon.

Look at the sky!

How fast it rains!

Look at the clouds.

The ducks love rain.

Ducks swim, and geese swim.

Can Charles swim?

No. Charles is not a duck, nor a goose: so he must take care not to go too near the pond, lest he should fall in. I do not know that we could get him out: if we could not, he would die.

When Charles is as big as James, he shall learn to swim.

Section 5.

A walk.

It does not rain now.

The sky is blue.

soon.

Let us take a walk in the fields; and see the sheep, and the lambs, and the cows, and trees, and birds.

Call Tray. He shall

He wags his tail. He is glad to see us,
and to go with us.

Stroke poor Tray.

Tray likes those who stroke him, and
feed him, and are kind to him.

Do not walk on the grass now. It is too
high; and it is quite wet.

Walk in this smooth, dry path.

There is a worm. Do not tread on it.

Can Charles climb that high stile?

O what a large field!

This is not green. It is not grass.

No; it is corn. It will be ripe soon.

Bread is made of corn. I dare say
Charles does not know how bread is made.

Well, some time I will tell him.

Now let us go home.

Shall we look at the bees in their glass
hive?

Will they sting us?

They will not sting us, if we do not
disturb them.

Wasps will not sting us, if we do not hurt them.

There is a wasp on my arm.

Now it is gone.

It has not stung me.

Section 6.

Dinner.

The clock strikes.

It is time to go in, and dine.

Is the cloth laid?

Where are the knives, and forks, and plates?

Call Ann.

Are your hands clean?

Sit down.

Do not take the broth yet; it is too hot:

wait till it is cool.

Will you have some lamb?

Do not smack your lips, or make a noise, when you eat.

Take some bread. Break the bread : do not bite it.

I do not put the knife in my mouth, for fear I should hurt my lips. Knives are sharp : they are to cut with, and not to put in one's mouth, or to play with.

Jane must shake the cloth out of doors.

The birds will pick up the crumbs.

Now let us go and play with George.

Section 7.

The poor blind man.

There is a poor blind man at the door.

He is quite blind. He does not see the sky, nor the ground, nor the trees, nor men.

He is so poor, though we are so poor, that we cannot help him from door to door.

Poor man !

O it is a sad thing to be blind !

We will give the blind man some bread
and cheese.

Now he is gone.

He is a great way off

Poor blind man !

Come in, Charles. Shut the door.

I wish the poor blind man had a warm
house to live in, and kind friends to take
care of him, and to teach him to work. Then
he would not beg from door to door.

Section 8.

The kind little boy.

"What a good boy George is! we all
love him; and he loves us, and does not try
to vex and tease his friends."

do : and how he loves Ann ! She is a sweet child ; and he gives her all his toys, when she points at them.

She will speak soon, and then she may tell what she wants.

He sits by her while she sleeps ; and takes care not to wake her ; and when he hears the maid on the stairs, he steps to tell her that Ann sleeps, and that she must not make a noise.

When he gets fruit, or cakes, he will not eat, till he has first put some by for his dear Ann ; and he buys toys for her at the fair : for he likes to please her more than to have things for his own use.

When she is two or three years old, she will thank him ; and she will say ; ‘ George is kind to me, and I will be kind to him, and love him as long as I live.’ ”

weet
when

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George

him,

Section 9.

The little boy that was lost, in his way home.

"When Charles came home, he told his friends where he had been, and what he had done. I met an old man (said he) on the heath, with a bag on his back. He was weak, and the bag was full, and it made him bend, and lean on his staff.

I was glad to meet him, for I could help him : if I had not, he would not have got home ; he would have been all night on the heath ; and it was cold, and the snow fell.

When we came to his house, his wife ran out to meet us. She was glad to see him come ; for she thought he had lost his way, and could not find his home.

She said I was a good boy.

done, and that God would bless me; and that I must (if I would have his love) be kind to the old and weak, who could not work, and were in want of bread.

I had a mind to help them, but I had not much in my purse: I gave them what I could spare, and left them glad.

In my way home, I lost the path on the heath. It was dark; I fell down, and found I was in a pit. The ground was soft, and I was not hurt; but I could not get out. I thought that I must stay there all night, and that I might call in vain; no one would pass by at so late a time to hear me.

But there did come by a poor man, who heard me, and took me out. He told me he had been to look for his cow; she had got out of the field, and could not be found. I went with him to seek for her; and when we had found her, he made me go home with him to his house, to dry my

The house was nice and clean, and there was a good brisk fire ; which I was glad to get near to, and so was the poor man. His wife put on more wood, and we were soon dry and warm. They gave me some bread and cheese, and some drink ; and I came home gay and well.

My heart was glad ; for I had been in time to save the poor old man ; and when I was in the pit, I soon had help to get me out. I hope I shall think of it as long as I live."

Chapter 12.

Words of two syllables.

Accent on the first syllable.

Can not	chil dren	muf fin
car ry	din ner	no thing
gal lop	in fant	nurs es
hap py	lit tle	pu nish
mar ket	prick ly	stub born
par rot	this tles	sub ject
pas ture	wo men	suf fer
plan tain	bo dy	tur nip
a ny	com mon	al most
bēt ter	fol low	al ways
ne ver	know ledge	dai ly
pen ny	wan der	dan ger
scep tre	war ble	pa rent
shep herd	watch es	prais es
strength en	go vern	sta ble
thir sty	han gry	trad e
mo ther		there

e vil	treat ed	pow er
peo ple	wea ry	roy al
pleas ing	bro ken	stu pid
rea son	mo ment	wool len
teach es	o ver	wo man

Accent on the second syllable.

A bout	be fore	con tent
a fraid	be hold	up on
a gain	de sign	o bey
a live	de sire	pro tect
a mong	re mains	pro vide
a sleep	com mand	for get
a way	com plain	for give

Reading lesson.

A penny roll.

Ann is asleep.

A broken cup.

James obeys his pa-
rents.

A little infant.

Charles hurt me, but

my mother.

I forgive him.

The horse gallops.

The child prates.

The bird prates.

The bird warble.

The child prates.

Chapter 13.

Promiscuous reading lessons.

Section 1.

The Ass.

The ass has hoofs, and very long ears. He brays very loud. The horse is afraid when the ass brays, and starts back ; but the ass is very meek, and never hurts any thing.

The ass is not so big as a horse, and cannot gallop fast ; but he works very hard. Sometimes he carries little boys on his back, two or three at a time ; and they sit on his sides, to keep him steady.

He carries greens to market, and turnips, and fruit; and sometimes he carries a great load of pans, and mugs, and pots, with which his back is almost broken. He gets nothing for his dinner but a few prickly thistles, or some plantain, or some coarse grass from out the common. He has no stable to go into, as a horse has; he lies out in the fields, in the snow, and in the rain: but he is content, he does not complain.

The ass gives milk, as well as the cow; and the milk is very good for people that are sick, to make them well again.

Some people say that asses are stupid and stubborn: but they know their master, and the place where he stops, and the roads which he passes; and when they are treated kindly, they behave well, and are fond of their masters.

Section 2.

The charitable little girl.*

A little girl, about four years old, had a great desire to taste a hot muffin. When she heard the muffin man go by her mother's door, crying "Muffins! muffins! hot muffins! Ho!" she asked her mother to give her a penny to buy one.

The mother gave her a penny; and the child ran down stairs, and bought a muffin.

At the door, she saw a very poor woman, who asked her to give her a penny, to get something to eat, for she was very hungry. The child said she had no pennies of her

* This pleasing little narrative was obligingly

sent to me by a celebrated writer

and I have the pleasure to publish it.

own, but she would go and ask her mother for some.

She ran up stairs, and soon came back, and said to the poor woman: "My mother has no more pennies to give me. But here is a muffin for you; and it is hot too."

The little girl never told any body that she had given away her muffin. And though she heard the man call, Muffins! two or three times that night, she did not ask her mother to buy one for her.

Section 3.

The child praising his Creator.

"Come, let us praise God, for he is very great; let us bless him, for he is very

made all things; the sun and moon to shine by

the great whale, and the little worm that crawls on the ground.

The little birds sing praises to God, when they warble sweetly in the green shade. I will praise him with my voice ; for I may praise him, though I am but a child.

A few years ago, I was a little infant, and I could not speak at all : and I did not know the great name of God, for my reason was not come to me. But now I can speak, and I will praise him ; I can think of all his kindness, and my heart shall love him.

Let him call me, and I will come to him : let him command, and I will obey him.

When I am older, I will praise him better ; and I will never forget God, so long as my life remains in me."

Section 4.

The care and goodness of God.

Behold the shepherd of the flock! he takes care of his sheep; he leads them among clear brooks; he guides them to fresh pastures; if the young lambs are weary, he carries them in his arms; if they wander, he brings them back.

But who is the shepherd's shepherd? who takes care of him? who guides him in the path he should go? and if he wanders, who shall bring him back?

God is the shepherd's shepherd. He is the shepherd over all; he is the shepherd of the whole earth is his name.

all his flock; and the herbs, and green fields, are the pasture which he provides for us.

The mother loves her little child; she brings it up on her knees; she strengthens its body with food; she feeds its mind with knowledge: if it is sick, she nurses it with tender love; she watches over it when asleep; she forgets it not for a moment; she teaches it how to be good; she is happy in its daily growth.

But who is the parent of the mother? who feeds her with good things, and watches over her with tender love, and thinks of her always? Whose arms are about her, to guard her from harm? and if she is sick, who shall nurse her?

Who is the parent of the mother? but the Father who made all. All the things

and all the women, who are alive in the wide world, are his children: he loves all; he is good to all.

The king governs his people: he has a golden crown upon his head, and the royal sceptre is in his hand; he sits upon a throne, and sends forth his commands; his subjects fear before him; if they do well, he protects them from danger: and if they do evil, he makes them suffer.

But who is the king of the king? who commands him what he must do? whose hand protects him from danger? and if he does evil, who shall punish him?

God is the king of the king: he is of rays of light, and his throne is the stars. He is King of all the world; if he bids us live, we live; if he bids us die, we die.

all worlds, and he beholds all the works he has made.

God is our Shepherd, therefore we will follow him: God is our Father, therefore we will love him: God is our King, therefore we will obey him."

THE END.

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